

# PREPARING FOR DIETETIC STUDENTS

## A GUIDE FOR CATERING DEPARTMENTS

---

Practice Placement A (PPA) is the first of three placements on the undergraduate programme in dietetics. It is a 155h placement that takes place at the end of Year 1.

### Who oversees the placement?

The Catering Manager or a designated member of staff assigns duties to students when they are on-site. Placement staff in Trinity provide support throughout the placement.

### Typical working day for a student

- A working day is 7h, excluding breaks
- Start and finish times can vary to ensure students get exposure to a range of meals
- On Fri, students finish at 1300 to enable them to complete work with Trinity in the afternoon
- Students do not work on bank holidays

### What are students expected to learn on PPA?

Students should develop an understanding of the following:

- Core aspects of how food is safely provided to service users in a healthcare setting
- Challenges to food provision in a healthcare setting
- How to engage effectively with service users to ensure appropriate food provision
- How to behave appropriately in a professional work environment

### What activities do students carry out on PPA?

Placement activities will vary from setting to setting. Students can be asked to:

- Store, prepare, and serve food across different mealtimes
- Clean specific kitchen areas
- Conduct menu analysis and/or complete short projects

### What forms need to be completed?

Students should present two forms for their on-site supervisor to complete in the final week.

1. Assessment form
2. Attendance log